



# News Release

#04-026

Contact: Michael Mayor  
Public Information Office  
Caltrans - (530) 225-3071

California Department of Transportation  
District 2, Redding  
Brian Crane, District Director

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Highway Info - 1-800-427-7623  
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Emergency Slide Removal on State Route 70 Butte County**

**REDDING** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will begin immediate emergency road work to remove soil and rocks, some measuring more than 15 feet in diameter from State Route (SR) 70 in Butte County. The slide occurred February 25, 2004 at approximately 7:40 p.m. near Lake Oroville, 1.5 mile west of Pulga. The roadway is open to one-way traffic control and it is anticipated that it will reopen to normal traffic at 8 p.m., Friday, February 27, 2004.

The slide includes more than 200 yards of material, much of which are large pieces of rock, some weighing well over 200 tons. Explosive devices will be used in the slide removal and during the blasting operations, the roadway will be completely closed for up to 20-minute intervals.

In order to complete the blasting process, more than 40 holes must be drilled into the rock. Drilling will begin this afternoon and continue through the night. Beginning Friday morning the slow process of blasting will be completed in small sections to limit the amount of rock that is dispersed. Extra pre-cautions will be taken due to the location of a major electrical transmission line just below the blast area. Caltrans personnel are handling the removal process with the exception of the drilling. Certified Blaster, Mark Vukich, who is a Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor, will conduct the blasting and other Caltrans maintenance staff will remove the roadway debris.

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*NOTE: An electronic version of this news release and photos of the slide are available on the internet at the following web address: [http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news\\_releases.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist2/news_releases.htm)*

*The Caltrans employee pictured in the photo is Guy Hinrichs, Caltrans Maintenance Supervisor for the Pulga Maintenance Station in District 2.*